

Message Text

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TAGS: APER AFSP UK EI

SUBJ: TRAVEL OF EDDIE CORCORAN AND GLADYS DUGGAN

REF: STATE 172125 AND LONDON 10177

1. BIO INFO AS REQUESTED REFTEL: MR. EDWARD J. CORCORAN JOINED THE STAFF OF THE AMERICAN CONSULATE GENERAL IN CAVENDISH SQUARE, LONDON, ON JULY 30, 1924 AT THE AGE OF 14 YEARS. HE STARTED AS A MESSENGER AND AFTER 2 YEARS HE WAS PROMOTED TO A CLERK IN THE VISA FILE ROOM. FROM THIS POSITION HE ROSE STEADILY TO BECOME A SPECIALIST IN QUOTA CONTROL.

2. MR. CORCORAN RECALLS THAT FROM 1924 TO 1960 VISA WORK WAS CONDUCTED FROM SUCH VARIED PLACES AS THE BALLROOM OF GROSVENOR HOUSE HOTEL DURING THE WARTIME EVACUATION OF BRITISH CHILDREN TO THE UNITED STATES; FROM BRUCE LODGE, EPSON, SURREY, IN DOCUMENTING REFUGEES FROM EUROPE; FROM THE FOURTH FLOOR OF SELFRIDGES DEPARTMENT STORE, FOR THE G.I. BRIDES AND FIANCEES' PROGRAM AND IN VARIOUS BUILDINGS IN AND AROUND THE GROSVENOR SQUARE AREA.

3. DURING HIS SERVICE HE HAS WORKED FOR 14 AMBASSADORS, 12 CONSULS GENERAL AND NEARLY 100 CONSULS.

4. HIS THOROUGH GRASP OF VISA PROCEDURES AND HIS COMPLETE KNOWLEDGE OF THE COMPLEXITIES OF QUOTA CONTROL HAVE BEEN THE SUBJECT OF MANY COMMENDATIONS BY HIS SUPERVISORS AND HAVE EARNED HIM A VARIETY OF AWARDS, INCLUDING A COMMEN-

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DABLE SERVICE AWARD. IN 1958 HE COMPLETED THE VISA

CORRESPONDENCE COURSE WITH A GRADE OF 91 (THE POINTS LOST WERE FOR OMISSION RATHER THAN WRONG ANSWERS).

5. MR. CORCORAN IS A BACHELOR. HE LIVES IN GREENFORD, MIDDLESEX, WITH HIS SISTER, MISS SARAH CORCORAN, WHO IS ACCOMPANYING HIM ON HIS VISIT TO THE UNITED STATES. HE IS KEEN TENNIS PLAYER AND PLANS, AFTER HIS RETIREMENT, TO SPEND MORE TIME ON HIS FAVORITE SPORT.

6. AMONG THE MANY LETTERS RECEIVED BY MR. CORCORAN TO COMMEMORATE HIS 50 YEARS' SERVICE WERE SOME FROM RETIRED FOREIGN SERVICE OFFICERS NOW LIVING IN OR AROUND THE WASHINGTON AREA WHO INDICATED THEY WOULD LIKE TO PARTICIPATE IN ANY ACTIVITIES PLANNED FOR HIM DURING HIS VISIT TO WASHINGTON. EMBASSY FEELS IT WOULD BE APPROPRIATE IF THESE OFFICERS COULD BE INCLUDED IN THE OFFICIAL CEREMONY. WHEN THE PLANS FOR THE RETIREMENT CEREMONY IN WASHINGTON ARE FIRM THE EMBASSY WOULD APPRECIATE BEING INFORMED.
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